

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIA-06 PCH-02 CU-02 L-01 RSC-01 AID-05

/028 R

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/NC:FJDEVINE

APPROVED BY: ARA/NC:MR. DEVINE

USIA:MISS DILLON

ARA/NC/V:MR. OEHRIG

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R 311553Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

INFO AMCONSUL MARACAIBO BY POUCH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 239287

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, OGEN, VE

SUBJ: FUNDING OF BINATIONAL CENTER AT MARACAIBO

REF: AMBASSADOR'S TELECON OCT 29 WITH ARA/NC

1. SERIOUS FINANCIAL PROBLEM OF BNC MARACAIBO HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH DOROTHY DILLON AND OTHERS AT USIA. THEY EMPHASIZE THAT ORIGINAL CONVERSATIONS AND AGREEMENTS LOOKING TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT OF BNC DID NOT REPEAT NOT ENVISAGE CONTINUING FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN TERMS OF MONETARY CONTRIBUTION BY USIA.

2. LONG-TERM LOW-INTEREST DOLS 185,000 LOAN FROM USIA MENTIONED BY AMBASSADOR DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY ASSISTANCE OFFERED OR IMPLIED BY DOROTHY DILLON BUT RATHER WAS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE AS PROPOSED BY BNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS. USIA WILL CONSIDER THIS IN COURSE OF PROGRAM REVIEW BUT PROSPECTS ANY SUCH ASSISTANCE ARE MINIMAL.

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3. ESSENCE OF PROBLEM APPEARS RESIDE IN NON-FULFILLMENT

ORIGINAL PLEDGES OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED FROM BUSINESS FIRMS AND OTHER MEMBERS MARACAIBO COMMUNITY. WHILE UNCERTAINTIES OF PRESENT BUSINESS SITUATION HAVE OBVIOUSLY UNSETTLED OUTLOOK FOR FOREIGN-OWNED PETROLEUM COMPANIES, IT IS HOPED THAT GENERAL AFFLUENCE OF VENEZUELA BASED ON GREATLY INCREASED PETROLEUM REVENUES MAY GENERATE SOME NEW SOURCES OF NECESSARY FUNDING. PERSONNEL CONVERSANT WITH MARACAIBO SITUATION SUGGEST THAT FULL OR PARTIAL SOLUTION OF PROBLEM MAY STILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH TEXACO LAND-TRANSFER PROPOSAL.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT INVITED. INGERSOLL

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED MARACAIBO.

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Message Attributes

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